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| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br><i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | <b>Application Number</b>   | 10/716,004                    |          |
|  | <b>Filing Date</b>          | November 17, 2003             |          |
|  | <b>First Named Inventor</b> | VITERI, Fermin                |          |
|  | <b>Group Art Unit</b>       | 3746                          |          |
|  | <b>Examiner Name</b>        |                               |          |
| <b>Total Number of Pages in This Submission</b>  | 31                          | <b>Attorney Docket Number</b> | 0145.001 |

| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)   |  |  |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement<br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below)<br>return postcard |
| <b>Remarks</b>  |  |  |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT |                           |
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| Firm or Individual name                    | Bradley P. Heisler        |
| Signature                                  | <i>Bradley P. Heisler</i> |
| Date                                       | 4-19-04                   |

| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  |                       |
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| Date  | April 19, 2004        |

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**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : 10/716,004  
Applicant : VITERI, Fermin  
Filed : November 17, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 3746  
Examiner :

Docket No. : 0145.001

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Before a first Office action on the merits of the above-identified case, the undersigned respectfully requests that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 4 of this paper and include both attached replacement sheets and annotated sheets showing changes.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 6 of this paper.